

# Nature with a Naturalist

*Due to fire emergencies throughout the west, park personnel may not be available to offer all of the programs scheduled in this issue. Please accept our apology for any inconvenience.*



## Glacier National Park - A unit of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Naturalist Activities Guide - August 27 through September 9, 2000

### Special Programs and Activities

#### The Glacier Institute

The Institute provides field classes within Glacier National Park. Courses examine cultural and natural resources, management policies, and research efforts. The Institute also contributes to an appreciation of Glacier's aesthetic qualities through the creative arts. For more information call or write the Glacier Institute at: P.O. Box 7457, Kalispell, MT 59904. Phone number: 406-888-5215 or 406-755-1211

#### Some Highlights in 2000:

Geology Along the Highline ..... September 9  
Autumn in Glacier: Season of Change ..... September 23  
Fall Mushroom Foray ..... September 30 - October 1  
Wilderness First Aid ..... October 7-8

#### Native America Speaks

Blackfeet, Salish, and Kootenai tribal members share their knowledge of the history and culture of Native America, through these 45-minute campfire programs. Meet at the campfire circle or amphitheater of the campground listed. Sponsored by Glacier Natural History Association.

**Apgar** ..... **August 28 and 31 - 8:00 pm**  
**Many Glacier** ..... **August 29 and September 5 - 7:30 pm**  
**Two Medicine** ..... **August 30 - 7:30 pm**  
**Rising Sun** ..... **August 31, September 6 and 7 - 7:30 pm**

#### Junior Ranger

Kids between the ages of six and twelve can become a Junior Ranger. Pick up a copy of the Junior Ranger Newspaper at a visitor center. Complete five of the activities and bring your completed form back to a visitor center to receive your Junior Ranger Badge, and become a Glacier National Park Junior Ranger.

#### Boat Trip & Guided Hike

Glacier Park Boat Co. offers narrated scenic boat cruises at Lake McDonald, Many Glacier, Rising Sun, and Two Medicine. In addition to the National Park Service-led hikes listed inside, Glacier Park Boat Co. naturalists lead guided walks at Two Medicine and Many Glacier at the following times:

#### Grinnell Lake Boat Trip and Hike

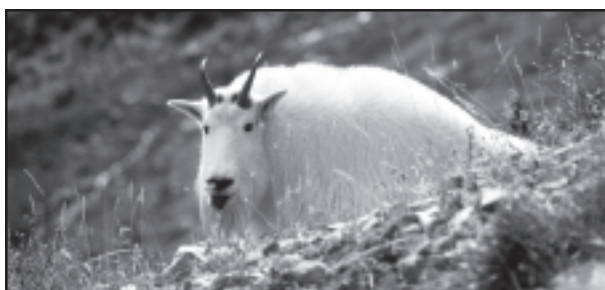
Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel Boat Dock for a cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes, followed by an optional, easy 2.5 mile, round-trip walk to Grinnell Lake.  
**Sunday, Monday, Thursday, and Friday** ..... **2:00 pm**

#### Two Medicine Lake Boat Trip and Hike

This two and a quarter hour activity includes a scenic boat cruise on Two Medicine Lake and easy 1.8 mile round-trip hike to beautiful Twin Falls. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock.  
**Daily through September 4** ..... **1:00 pm & 3:00 pm**



Bighorn Sheep



Mountain Goat



Black Bear

### WHAT TO BRING HIKING

#### STURDY FOOT GEAR

For all but the very easiest of hikes, everyone should have sturdy foot gear. A good boot, with strong support, will help prevent ankle injuries.

#### WATER

Water is a must! The mountains can get very hot in the summer. Bring water with you. Surface water in the park may be unsafe to drink.

#### MOSQUITO REPELLENT

Mosquitos and flies can be a problem. Come prepared to meet Glacier's smaller wildlife species.

#### SUN SCREEN AND A HAT

A day of hiking can expose you to more sun and UV rays than normal. Bring sunscreen! Wear your favorite hat. It will help keep you cool and you won't get a painful sunburn on your scalp!

#### RAIN GEAR

Weather can change quickly. Come prepared for summer showers.

#### CHILDREN

Children are welcome on interpretive activities, but should always be accompanied by an adult.

#### FOOD AND SNACKS

You'll be burning up lots of calories hiking in the mountains. Bring something to eat while you are in the backcountry. If you are on an all-day hike or a hike over the noon hour, you'll get mighty hungry without lunch.  
**ENTHUSIASM AND A SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE**  
Glacier's rangers and concessioners will be guiding you to some incredible places. Come prepared to have a great time!

In addition to the National Park Service-led programs listed inside, park concessioners and partners offer horseback rides, narrated tours, guided hikes, and backcountry trips. Check the listings in the Waterton-Glacier Guide for more information or inquire at park visitor centers.

Programs accessible to visitors in wheelchairs are noted with this symbol. 

A sign language interpreter may be available for programs. Please contact us at 406-888-7942 at least a week in advance and we will try to accommodate your request.

Lake McDonald	8/27	8/28	8/29	8/30	8/31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Lower McDonald Creek Stroll .....	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am	8:30 am
	12:30pm	12:30pm		12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm		12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm	12:30pm
Avalanche Lake .....	12:30pm		12:30pm		12:30pm		12:30pm	12:30pm		9:00 am		9:00 am		9:00 am
Sacred Dancing Cascades .....		1:30 pm		1:30 pm		1:30 pm			1:30 pm	1:30 pm	9:00 am	1:30 pm	9:00 am	1:30 pm
Education Cabin .....		2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to	2:00 to
	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm	4:00 pm
Lake McDonald Launch Tours .....	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &	3:30 &
	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm	7:00 pm
Apgar Ranger Talk .....			8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm			8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm
Lake McDonald Lodge Program .		8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm



Grossbeak

**Avalanche Lake Hike** - Hike through mature red cedar and western hemlock to glimmering Avalanche Lake. Meet at the picnic area parking lot across from the Avalanche Campground. **4 miles (6.4km) - 3 1/2 hours**

**Sacred Dancing Cascades** - This hike through the cedar and hemlock forest passes John’s Lake and crosses Sacred Dancing Cascades on upper McDonald Creek. Meet at the bridge located across the creek, on the Lake McDonald Ranger Station Road (first left 1.2 miles north of Lake McDonald Lodge). **2.5 miles (4km) - 2 1/4 hours**

**Education Cabin** - Explore the educational and fun hands-on activities at this open house. Staff will be on duty to help with a variety of learning stations dealing with bears, wolves, mountain lions, birds, geology, and much more. Stop by the Apgar Visitor Center for directions to the nearby cabin.

**Lake McDonald Launch Tours** - Cruise Lake McDonald and absorb a segment of Glacier’s history, as the DeSmet plies the waters of one of Glacier’s early day boat launch routes. Meet at the boat dock behind Lake McDonald Lodge. A fee is charged for the one hour boat ride.

**Apgar Ranger Talk** - Join a ranger at the amphitheater at Apgar Campground for a 45 minute program focused on the cultural or natural history of Glacier.

**Lake McDonald Lodge Program** - Join a ranger at Lake McDonald Lodge Auditorium for this 45-minute evening slide program. All park visitors are welcome to these free programs.

## Visiting Logan Pass

**Alpine Talks** - Throughout the day, park rangers provide interesting and informative programs on the alpine habitat of Logan Pass. Fifteen minute talks offered as announced at Logan Pass Visitor Center.

**Special Notes:**  
Frequently, in August and September, the parking lot at Logan Pass fills beyond capacity, forcing visitors to drive on without stopping. To avoid the crowds, plan on visiting Logan Pass early in the day or late in the afternoon.  
\*No phone or food services at Logan Pass.

### Road Repairs

This summer expect minor delays on the Going-to-the-Sun Road of about 15 minutes on each side of Logan Pass.  
**Two hour delays may occur between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.**

Plan your driving times, hiking times, and bathroom breaks with these factors in mind.

### Transportation Options

Through September 5, the Going-to-the-Sun Road shuttle and guided tours stop at Logan Pass. They provide a valuable service to those with oversized vehicles and help reduce traffic.

Tours can be arranged by contacting:  
**Sun Tours**  
226-9220  
**Glacier Park Inc.,**  
226-5666 (tours and shuttle service)



Garden Wall from McDonald Creek

*Nature with a Naturalist* design and layout by Bill Hayden and Nete Reinhard; editing and content by the Division of Interpretation, funded by donations from the Glacier Natural History Association.



St. Mary/Rising Sun	8/27	8/28	8/29	8/30	8/31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Siyeh Hike .....	8:30 am	8:30 am					8:30 am		8:30 am		8:30 am			8:30 am
St. Mary Lake Boat Trip & Hike .....	9:00 am		9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am		9:00 am	9:00 am						
Contour Map Talk ..... 	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm
Calling All Junior Rangers! .....			2:00 to											
.....			3:30 pm											
St. Mary Lake Boat Trip & Hike .....	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm					
Sunset Cruise .....	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm					
Evening Campfire Program ..... 		7:30 pm		7:30 pm		7:30 pm			7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm
Evening Slide Program ..... 	8:00 pm		8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm	8:00 pm		8:00 pm	8:00 pm					

**Siyeh Hike** - Experience three life zones as we climb 2,230 feet to spectacular alpine country. From the high point of 8080 feet, we will descend 3,440 feet past views of Sexton Glacier to Sunrift Gorge. Meet at Sunrift Gorge to arrange a car shuttle to the trailhead . **10.5 miles (16.5km) - 7 hours**

**Contour Map Talk at St. Mary Visitor Center** - Gather around the relief map and learn about the park’s glaciers, mountain passes, and three watersheds. A ranger will be there to guide you through your journey. **15 minutes**

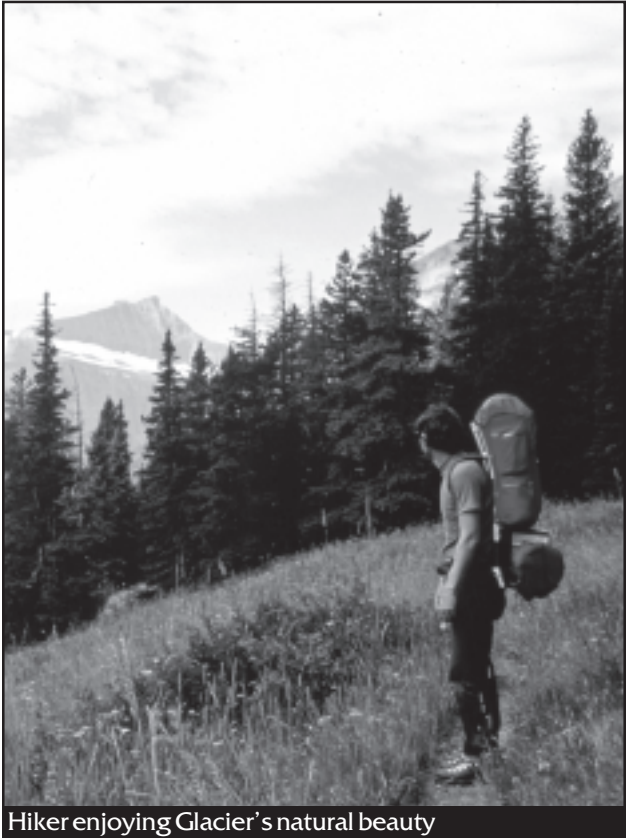
**Calling All Junior Rangers!** - Bring the whole family to an open house at the park’s first ranger station. Explore Glacier’s wildlife through hands-on activities and games or step back in time with stories of the park’s first rangers. Meet at the 1913 Ranger Station, just east of the St. Mary Entrance Gate. **1 1/2 hours**

**St. Mary Lake Boat Trip & Hike** - Enjoy Glacier’s rugged beauty as you cruise up St. Mary Lake. Take the optional three mile ranger-led hike to St. Mary Falls, returning on a later boat. Meet at the Rising Sun Boat Dock, six miles west of St. Mary. A fee is charged for the round-trip boat ride. **3 miles (5km) - 3 1/2 hours**


**Sunset Cruise** - Enjoy the evening light on St. Mary Lake and reflect on your day as you join a ranger for a peaceful cruise on the lake. Meet at the Rising Sun Boat Dock, six miles west of St. Mary on the Going-to-the-Sun Road. A fee is charged for the boat ride. **1 hour**

**Evening Campfire Program** - Gather around the campfire circle to learn about Glacier National Park. Meet at the Rising Sun Campground Amphitheater, six miles west of St. Mary. Topics change nightly. On Thursday evenings, join a member of the Blackfeet Nation for Native America Speaks Program. **45 minutes**

**Evening Slide Program** - Glacier National Park has some of the best scenic views in the world. Come to the St. Mary Visitor Center to view nightly programs that give you a peek at the best-of-the-best. Schedules of the nightly topics are posted in the visitor centers and campgrounds. **45 minutes**



Hiker enjoying Glacier’s natural beauty

Two Medicine	8/27	8/28	8/29	8/30	8/31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Dawson Pass Hike .....			9:00 am											
Two Medicine Lake Boat Trip & Hike	10:30 am							10:30 am						
Cobalt Lake Hike .....		11:00 am				11:00 am			11:00 am				11:00 am	
Firebrand Pass Hike .....							11:00 am			11:00 am				
Rockwell Falls Hike .....				11:00 am							11:00 am			
Scenic Point Hike .....					11:00 am									
Evening Campfire Program ..... 	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm					

**Dawson Pass Hike** - This strenuous, but exciting, hike to Dawson Pass climbs steadily 2,450 feet through windswept alpine country to the Nyack Valley overlook. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock for a quick cruise up Two Medicine Lake to the trailhead. A fee is charged for the boat cruise. **10.4 miles (16.3km) - 6 hours**

**Two Medicine Lake Boat Trip and Hike** - Cruise scenic Two Medicine Lake and join a naturalist for a gentle hike to Upper Two Medicine Lake, gaining 350 feet in elevation. Pass beautiful Twin Falls and traverse flower filled meadows on your way to the lake. Meet at the Two Medicine Boat Dock. A fee is charged for the boat ride. Return by a later boat. **4.4 miles (7.0km) - 5 hours**

**Cobalt Lake Hike** - Pass through flower filled meadows and coniferous forests under the slopes of spectacular Sinopah Mountain, then climb into sub-alpine country, with swift creeks, rocks, and alpine flowers to pristine Cobalt Lake. Meet at the Two Medicine Campstore. **11.4 miles (18.1km) - 7 hours**

**Firebrand Pass Hike** - Join a ranger and explore the southeast corner of the Park. Climb 1900 feet through a variety of habitats to rocky, and rugged Firebrand Pass. Learn about wild fires and fire ecology on the way. Meet at the trailhead, on the right side of Hwy 2, six miles west from the Hwy 49/Hwy 2 junction in East Glacier. Maps available at the Two Medicine Ranger Station. **9 miles (14.4km) - 6 hours**

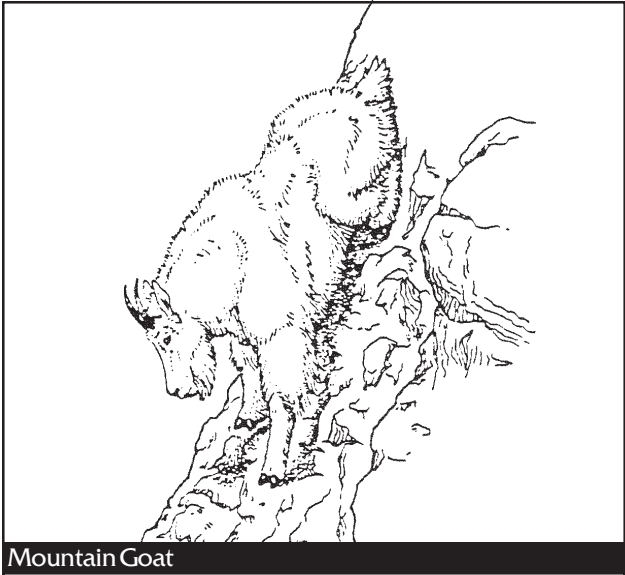
**Rockwell Falls Hike** - This moderately paced half-day hike passes through wildflower filled meadows to Aster Falls and gently ascends the valley beneath Sinopah Mountain to Rockwell Falls. Enjoy the diversity of habitats as you climb 375 feet. Meet at the Two Medicine Campstore. **7 miles (11.2km) - 5 hours**

**Scenic Point Hike** - Glaciated valleys and spectacular vistas highlight this rugged, steadily climbing hike. You will gain 2,350 feet. Meet at the Scenic Point Trailhead. **6.2 miles (9.9km) - 5 hours**

**Evening Campfire Program** - Join a ranger at the two Medicine Campground Campfire Circle, Loop B, Site 41, for this traditional evening campfire talk. Programs focus on a variety of fascinating topics and are free to all park visitors. **45 minutes**

Be sure to check the front page for information on how to prepare for a guided hike.

Many Glacier	8/27	8/28	8/29	8/30	8/31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Iceberg Lake Hike .....						8:30 am	8:30 am							
Grinnell Lake Boat Trip and Hike ....	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am
			2:00 pm	2:00 pm			2:00 pm			2:00 pm	2:00 pm			2:00 pm
Redrock Falls Hike .....	2:00 pm	2:00 pm			2:00 pm			2:00 pm	2:00 pm			2:00 pm		
Nature Walk .....	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm					
Swiftcurrent/Josephine Lakes Hike ...										2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	
Evening Campground Program .. ♿	7:30 pm		7:30 pm		7:30 pm		7:30 pm			7:30 pm		7:30 pm		
Lucerne Room Evening Program ♿		8:00 pm		8:00 pm		8:00 pm		8:00 pm	8:00 pm		8:00 pm		8:00 pm	



**Iceberg Lake Hike** - This moderately strenuous hike leads through meadows and forest to spectacular Iceberg Lake. Meet at the Swiftcurrent Campstore.  
**10 miles (16km) - 6 hours**

**Grinnell Lake Boat Trip and Hike** - Meet at the Many Glacier Hotel Boat Dock for a cruise on Swiftcurrent and Josephine Lakes, and an easy optional hike to Grinnell Lake. A fee is charged for the boat. Purchase boat tickets early if possible.  
**2.5 miles (4km) - 3 1/2 hours**

**Redrock Falls Hike** - Meet the ranger on the front porch of the Swiftcurrent Campstore for an easy hike to Redrock Falls.  
**3.5 miles (5.6km) - 3 1/2 hours**

**Nature Walk** - Join a ranger for a liesurely level walk to Fishercap Lake and Wilbur Falls. Meet at the Swiftcurrent Campstore porch. **1 mile (1.6km) - 1 1/2 hours**

**Swiftcurrent/Josephine Lakes Hike-** Enjoy the afternoon solitude on a level hike to a seldom visited spot in the Many Glacier Valley. Meet the ranger in the lobby of the Many Glacier Hotel. **3.5 miles (5.5km) - 3 1/2 hours**

**Evening Campground Program** - Join a ranger at the Many Glacier Campground Campfire Circle for an interesting and enjoyable exploration of Glacier National Park. Topics vary nightly and programs last 45 minutes.

**Lucerne Room Evening Program** - Enjoy a slide-illustrated tour of one of the many facets of Glacier. These 45 minute programs are given downstairs in the Lucerne Room of the Many Glacier Hotel. All park visitors are invited.

Goat Haunt	8/27	8/28	8/29	8/30	8/31	9/1	9/2	9/3	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/9
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Dock Talks .....	10:00 am			10:00 am	10:00 am									
	11:00 am			11:00 am	11:00 am	11:00 am		11:00 am						
						2:00 pm		2:00 pm						
	5:00 pm			5:00 pm	5:00 pm	5:00 pm		5:00 pm						
International Peace Park Hike .....							10:00 am							
Kootenai Lakes Hike .....	11:30 am													
Goat Haunt Overlook Hike .....				11:30 am	11:30am									
A Day in the Life of a Goat Haunt Ranger	2:00 pm													

**Dock Talks** - Meet the ranger at the dock for a glimpse into the secrets of the Waterton Valley. You will have time for a short walk before re-boarding the boat. **10 minutes**

**International Peace Park Hike** - Join both U.S. National Park Service and Parks Canada employees on this exploration of the world's first International Peace Park. Hike across the international boundary from Waterton to Goat Haunt and return via boat. Meet at the Bertha Trailhead in Waterton Townsite. The return boat trip is \$12.00 (Canadian) for adults, \$8.00 for ages 13-17, and \$6.00 for children 4-12.  
**8.7 miles (13.9km) - 7 hours**

**Kootenai Lakes Hike** - Watch for moose (and mosquitoes!) on this hike to a marshland. Take the 10:00 am boat from Waterton; make arrangements with the boat company to return on the 5:25 pm boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station. **5 miles (8km) - 4 1/2 hours**

**A Day in the Life of a Goat Haunt Ranger** - What is it like at Goat Haunt after the last boat leaves for the day? Dangle your feet in Waterton Lake while you join a Ranger for this lakeside chat. Learn a little more about this beautiful part of Glacier Park. **2.5 miles (4km) - 1 hour**

**Goat Haunt Overlook Hike** - Majestic views of this glacially carved valley highlight this short, but steep hike. Take the 10:00 am cruise from Waterton, and make arrangements with the boat company to return on a later boat. Meet at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station.  
**2 miles (3.2km) - 2 1/2 hours**

Be sure to check the front page for information on how to prepare for a guided hike.

